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# Carter Organizes Drive to End Ban On Arms to Turks

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WASHINGTON, June 1 — President Carter called repeal of the embargo on military aid to Turkey his highest foreign policy priority today and gave selected members of the House of Representatives a memorandum detailing an all-out drive over the next three weeks to bring the repeal about.

The memorandum, a copy of which was made available to The New York Times, projects Congressional testimony by civilian and military leaders. White House briefings for 100 members of Congress directed by the President himself, and an effort to rally grassroots support for repeal by working with veterans' organizations.

In the 400-word document, Mr. Carter also solicits canvassing of uncommitted members of Congress by the 14 Representatives of both parties who attended today's briefing at the White House. All 14 are known to favor repeal of the arms embargo, imposed by Congress after Turkey occupied northern Cyprus in 1974.

## Embargo Is Termed 'Negative' Act

In his appeal to the House members today, the President called the embargo a "negative" act that had "driven a wedge" between the United States and Turkey, between Turkey and Greece, and even between the United States and Greece.

"It has shaken very seriously the cohesiveness of the NATO alliance," Mr. Carter said of the impact of the embargo on the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. "It has stalemated progress on Cyprus."

The restriction, he said, has "not performed well for our country or for peace in the Middle East or Europe."

During the meeting of leaders of the 15-nation Atlantic alliance, which ended here yesterday, the President declared his intention to seek prompt repeal. He repeated the assurance in a private meeting with Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit of Turkey.

Mr. Carter is starting his effort in the face of warnings by Prime Minister Constantine Caramanlis of Greece, who was also received at the White House, that repeal would damage Greek-American relations and set back negotiations between the Greek and Turkish ethnic communities in divided Cyprus.

The President also faces a campaign to retain the embargo, waged by members of Congress sym-

tions Committee voted 8 to 4 against repeal.

But Mr. Carter left no doubt in the minds of the House members at today's briefing that he intended to use the kind of intensive campaign that eventually insured Senate support the Panama Canal treaties and for the controversial plane sales to the Middle East.

"The President has made a major commitment of his prestige to get the arms embargo repealed," one of those present said. "I think this is an enormously significant development. Without a major Presidential commitment there would have been no chance to get repeal."

Mr. Carter's initial target will be a vote in the House, expected late in the month. According to the memorandum, he plans to enlist the services of Secretary of State Cyrus R. Vance, Secretary of Defense Harold Brown and Adm. Stansfield Turner, Director of Central Intelligence, along with other State and Defense Department officials.

Military leaders participating in the drive will include Gen. David C. Jones, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and Gen. Alexander M. Haig Jr., commander of North Atlantic Treaty forces, who will come to Washington from his Brussels headquarters during the three-week period.

## Haig Opens Campaign on Tuesday

On Tuesday General Haig will be host at a breakfast for 15 House members. He will also join witnesses from the State Department in giving testimony in a hearing before the House Armed Services subcommittee on standardization of weapons within the Atlantic alliance, where questioning on Greece, Turkey and Cyprus is expected.

Ronald I. Spiers, the United States Ambassador to Turkey, will also begin to brief House members on Tuesday, and on Wednesday a strategy session at the White House would select the members of Congress who would spearhead the drive for appeal in the Senate.

The House members involved in canvassing uncommitted colleagues are expected to report back by Friday, and Secretaries Vance and Brown, General Jones, Admiral Turner and Deputy Secretary of State Warren M. Christopher would then be used for additional contacts. In the next two weeks, the President himself will hold two briefing sessions for some 50 uncommitted House members each.

The members who met with the President today and were given the White House memorandum on the repeal effort were led by Representative Clement J. Zablocki, Democrat of Wisconsin, who is chairman of the International Relations Committee. The group included eight Democrats and six Republicans.

## Text of Memorandum

The Administration plans a major effort between now and the anticipated House vote the last week of June. Next week, (a) General Haig will host a breakfast for 15 Congressmen on June 6, (b) he and State Department witnesses will appear before the House Armed Services Subcommittee on

NATO standardization later that day where questioning on Greece, Turkey and Cyprus is expected, (c) our ambassador in Turkey, Ronald Spiers, will begin briefing House members in Washington June 6, and (d) the President plans a White House strategy session on June 7 to put together a Senate leadership team.

By June 9, we would like to have the results of your own initial canvass of your colleagues, to know where we stand and to apportion the still uncommitted Congressmen to key Administration officials for further contact. We would expect to use Secretary of Defense Brown, General Jones, Admiral Turner, Secretary Vance, Deputy Secretary Christopher and other officials from the Defense and State Departments for this contact work.

During the week of June 12, the President will hold the first of two briefing sessions in the White House. Some 50 uncommitted Congressmen will be invited. The President will speak briefly about the importance of his program and then call on Secretaries Brown and Vance and Generals Jones and Haig for more detailed briefings. A second White House briefing session for an additional 50 Congressmen will be scheduled the week of June 19. Either the week of June 12 or June 19, the President will talk about our Turkish program at one of his regular press conferences.

General Haig will return to Washington and he and other top Pentagon officials will speak to as many House members as possible the week of June 19. The Secretary of State and his staff will also be contacting undecided House members during this period.

During the three-week period beginning June 5, the Administration also plans to work with each of the major veterans' organizations to build grassroots support for the Administration's program.